

From the Upper Chamber



Senate Information Office ♦ 201 Legislative Office Building ♦ Atlanta, Georgia ♦ 404.656.0028

Report for Monday, February 12, 2007

The eighteenth day of the 2007 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Casey Cagle**.

Senator **Don Thomas** of the 54th stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 144-146 and House Bills 51, 213, 220 and 245 were read for the first time and assigned to committees. The clerk of the Secretary then read the reports of standing committees and second readers.

Lt. Gov. **Cagle** then recognized U.S. Congressman **Phil Gingrey**, who took the rostrum to greet the Senate.

After the roll call, Lt. Gov. **Cagle** recognized Sen. **Bill Heath** of the 31st, who took the rostrum to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Heath** introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Reverend **Talmadge Chandler** of Abilene Baptist Church in Carrollton, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to speak about the copy of the Declaration of Independence on display at the State Capitol.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Lorenzo Wallace** escorted Sen. **Judson Hill** of the 32nd and his guests, members of a delegation from China, to the rostrum.

The Secretary read Senate Resolution 240, which expresses Georgia's cultural, economic and educational cooperation with the People's Republic of China. Sen. **Hill** of the 32nd then introduced the members of the Chinese delegation to the Senate.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Wallace** escorted Sen. **George Hooks** of the 14th and his guests, staff members of the Georgia Archives, to the rostrum.

The Secretary read SR 232, which recognizes and commends the staff of the Georgia Archives for rediscovering Georgia's official copy of the Declaration of Independence. President Pro Tempore **Eric Johnson** of the 1st introduced the Georgia Archives staff to the Senate.

The Secretary read SB 1, which would make it unlawful for persons required to register as sexual offenders to take photographs of a minor.

Sen. **Johnson** took the well to explain the story behind the bill, and explain the changes in the Committee Substitute. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33rd.

The Committee Substitute was adopted by a vote of 35 to 0.

SB 1 passed by substitute by a vote of 54 to 0.

The Secretary read SB 70, which will update several Georgia banking laws in order to reflect changes in federal law.

Sen. **Bill Hamrick** of the 30th took the well to present the bill, and outline some of the banking laws that will change.

SB 70 passed by a vote of 52 to 1.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Wallace** then escorted Sen. **Joseph Carter** of the 13th and his guests, members of several 4-H clubs in Georgia, to the rostrum.

The Secretary read SR 244, which commends the 4-H clubs of Georgia and recognizes today as 4-H Day at the Capitol. Sen. **Carter** then introduced the Georgia 4-H leaders to the Senate.

The Secretary read SB 87, which aims to incorporate the use of "RV friendly" markers on specific signs for business establishments that cater to the needs of persons driving recreational vehicles.

Sen. **Chip Pearson** of the 51st took the well to explain the need for improved RV signage.

SB 87 passed by a vote of 54 to 0.

Sen. **Dan Weber** of the 40th then moved that SB 83 be placed at the foot of the calendar. There was no objection.

Sen. **Weber** also moved that SB 32 be placed at the foot of the calendar. There was no objection.

The Secretary read SB 82 and the accompanying Amendment 1 by Sen. **Weber**.

Sen. **Weber** took the well to explain the Committee Substitute, which would make way for a special local referendum vote on the incorporation of the City of Dunwoody. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Emanuel Jones** of the 10th.

Sen. **David Adelman** of the 42nd took the well to speak to SB 82 and certain issues pertaining to incorporation and local government. He yielded to questions from Senators **David Shafer** of the 48th and **Vincent Fort** of the 39th.

Sen. **Jones** took the well to speak against SB 82. He asked Senators to consider forming a City of Dunwoody Senate Study Committee before proceeding with any legislation.

Sen. **Gloria Butler** of the 55th took the well to express some of her concerns on SB 82.

Sen. **Weber** took the well to explain Amendment 1, and conclude the debate on SB 82. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Nan Orrock** of the 36th.

Amendment 1 was adopted by a vote of 29 to 4.

The Committee Substitute was adopted as amended by a vote of 33 to 3.

SB 82 passed by substitute by a vote of 38 to 15.

The Secretary read SB 83, which makes provisions for new municipalities, providing for the offer of sale to qualified municipalities of county property used as police stations, fire stations, cultural properties or vacant properties within a new municipality.

Sen. **Weber** took the well to present the Committee Substitute.

Sen. **Fort** took the well to speak against SB 83. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Orrock**.

The Committee Substitute to SB 83 was adopted by a vote of 30 to 8.

SB 83 passed by substitute by a vote of 32 to 20.

The Secretary read SB 32, which provides for a special referendum vote to allow the City of Doraville to annex certain property in DeKalb County.

Sen. **Weber** again took the well to present the legislation. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Jones**.

SB 32 passed by a vote of 42 to 9.

Following the announcements, Majority Leader **Williams** moved that the Senate stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 13.

#

From the Upper Chamber
Monday, February 12, 2007
Page 3 of 3